

Cornelius Harnett Hill was born September 29, 1839 in Milton, North Carolina. He received his early education at Graves Academy in Virginia. With the opening of the Civil War he volunteered in the Confederate Army. At the request of the Superintendent of the North Carolina School for the Deaf in Raleigh, Hill was discharged near the end of the war, in order to help keep the school open. Shortly after the war he left North Carolina to teach in a private school for hearing children. In 1870 he accepted a teaching position at the Maryland School for the Deaf near Frederick. While in Maryland he was offered the principalship at the West Virginia, Florida, and Mississippi schools, all of which offers he declined. Returning to the Raleigh school in 1886, he spent two years there as a teacher and in 1888 the West Virginia school was offered him for a second time, he accepted, where he remained for nine years, resigning in 1897. In October of that year he went to Fulton, Missouri and taught in the School for the Deaf until 1915, when he was forced to resign because of ill health. Mr. Hill died November 13, 1920.

Mr. Hill was twice married. To the first union one son was born but died at birth. By his second wife, Miss Sarah K. McGill of Frederick, Maryland, he had two children. Dr. Halbert R. and Elizabeth Pinckney Hill, who taught at the Missouri School for the Deaf in Fulton, Missouri, and later in Florida.